THE

Theatrical Observer.

AND

Daily Bills of the Play.

Nothing extenuate nor set down aught in malice.'

No. 80. *Tuesday, Feb.* 5, 1822. *Price* 1d

DRURY LANE.

We expressed our hopes on Saturday, that Mr. Kean would soon re-appear in one of his eminent characters, and last night we were gratified by his performing Glo'ster in Richard the Third. What can we say that would wear the shape of novelty, respecting his representation of this arduous character? Absolutely nothing—The public are already intimately acquainted with the vigour, the beauties, the defects of his style of acting; and to dwell on them as displayed in his *Richard* would at present be superfluous. Mr. Kean has raised for himself a high reputation; yet he labours under the common fate of all men who have distinguished themselves—he has enemies to his fame; *detractors*, who, because he has imperfections, are inclined to deny him a title to any real merit; *detractors*, who are so from a love of differing from common opinion; *detractors* that detest the *Successful*, merely because the latter have overstepped the boundaries which they could not reach. Heaven forbid that we should deny the possibility of the existence of a conscientious opinion adverse to Mr. Kean's histrionic reputation—there *may* be many who do not accord with us and the great majority of the public, regarding his merits. *Taste will differ*. Yet we must be allowed to hold fast to our declared sentiments, in considering this gentleman singularly gifted to enforce the passions, and to render powerfully prominent the varying shades and lights of character, whereby he astonishes, interests, and impresses the mind, and keeps up a close connection between imagination and reason. It is with regret we enter into a decided protest against the performance of the *Duke of Buckingham* by Mr. Penley.

He is as unfit for such a part, as Mr. Powell is for that of *Harlequin* Mr. Penley may play the *walking gentleman*, or the soft-pated *fop*, but to attempt the political tool, *Buckingham*, is folly in the extreme. Mr. COOPER's *Richmond* is *energetic*, at least—he gives to the future King Harry, however, a more *warlike* than *politic* bearing, which is not exactly accordant with the character of *Richmond*.

COVENT GARDEN.

The Exile again attracted a good house, and *The Pantomime* followed: the latter entertainment has now been given for thirty-five nights, and the steady play-goers are now worn out with its mummery. Surely it is time for the Manager to make a change, and favor us with something more rational to laugh at. We are convinced from observation on the state of the House, at first and half-price, that the Pantomime has nearly ceased to attract; but it would appear that so long as there are attractive first pieces, there is no exertion made for conferring a *full* measure of proper entertainment. A good Christmas Harlequinade might be permitted to run for three weeks, whilst our children are from school, but to offer such a species of amusement nightly for three weeks longer, is paying a wretched compliment to the part of the public possessing taste and good sense.

THE ITALIAN OPERA HOUSE.

This Evening will be performed, Mozart's Opera, entitled,

LE NOZZE DI FIGARO.

In the Second Act, a DIVERTISSEMENT.

After the Opera, the new Ballet composed by M. Anatole, with new scenery, machinery, dresses, decorations, &c. entitled

PANDORE.

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Theatre Royal, Drury Lane.

This Evening will be performed

THE PIRATE.

The Music, chiefly by Mr. T. Cooke.

Principal Characters by

Mr. COOPER. Mr. PENLEY,
Mr. POPE. Mr. FITZWILLIAM, Mr. LOVEDAY,
Mr. GATTIE. Mr. HARLEY.
Mr. SMITH, Mr. FOOTE, Mr. VINING.

Messrs. Dobbs, Read, Taylor, Willmott, Webster, Howell, D. Smith, Randall, Sheriff, Isaacs, Turnour, Seymour, Guisso, Hope, Guischard, Rames, Morris, Goodson, Goodson, jun. &c.

Madame VESTRIS, Miss CUBITT,
Miss TREE.
and Mrs. W. WEST.

Messdms. Barnard, Margerum, Hill, Webster, Philips, Edwards, Cooper, Willmott, Mallard, Taylor, Smith, Best, Tokely, Valancy, &c.

After which the Farce of

THE LIAR.

Young Wilding, Mr. ELLISTON,
Sir James Elliott, Mr. THOMPSON,
Old Wilbing, Mr. POWELL, Papillion, Mr. GATTIE.
Miss Grantham, Mrs. EDWIN,
Miss Godfery, Miss SMITHSON,
Kitty, Miss TIDSWELL.

To conclude with (103nd time)

The Coronation.

To-morrow, Othello. Othello, Mr. Kean. Iago, Mr. Cooper.
On Thursday, The Pirate. After which a Petit Comedy, called
LOVE IN HUMBLE LIFE.

Theatre Royal, Covent Garden.

This Evening will be performed the Play of

THE TEMPEST.

Prospero, *(a Magician)* Mr. YOUNG.
Alonzo, King of Naples, Mr. EGERTON,
Antonio, the Usurper of Milan, Mr. CHAPMAN,
Ferdinand, Mr. ABBOTT,
Gonzalo, a Nepolitan, Counsellor, Mr. JEFFERIES
Hippolyto Mr. DURUSET, Stephano Mr. FARREN
Trinculo, Mr. BLANCHARD.
Caliban, a monster, of the Island, Mr. COMER,
Dorinda, Miss STEPHENS,
Miranda, Miss HALLANDE, Ariel, Miss TREE.
Chorus of Spirits, 1st Spirit, Mr. PYNE,
Mess. Comer Crumpton, George, Montague, Norris, G. Pyne, &c. &c
Miss BEAUMONT, Mrs. BISHOP, Mrs. BOYLE, Miss LOVE, &c.
Mesdms, Appleton. Coates, Green Grimaldi, Herbert, &c.

To conclude with, a Grand, and Comic Pantomime,

Harlequin & Mother Bunch ; Or, the Yellow Dwarf.

Succession of the Scenery.

HE ENTRANCE to the PALACE OF THE KING of the GOLD MINES.
THE SANDY DESERT,
In the midst of which grows the ORANGE TREE.
THE CHAMBER OF THE PRINCESS.
THE NUPTIAL HALL.
THE CASTLE OF POLISHED STEEL.
The Garden of the Castle. The Sea Port of Golconda.
VIEW FROM MARGATE PIER. STEAM PACKET.
Billingsgate, London Bridge, and the Pool. A Street in London.
OUTSIDE OF WESTMINSTER HALL.
Inside of the Court of King's Bench. Blackheath, near London.
JOHNNY GILPIN's HOUSE, CHEAPSIDE.
The Turnpike-House—Stamford-Hill—The Bell at Edmonton—The Rotunda of the Bank of England.
THE PALACE OF THE KING OF THE GOLD MINES

To-morrow, The Two Gentlemen of Verona.